

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
19 August 2004 (19.08.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2004/070022 A2**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: C12N 1/14, C12R 1/685

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/EP2004/001173

(22) International Filing Date: 5 February 2004 (05.02.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
03100236.3 5 February 2003 (05.02.2003) EP

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): DSM IP ASSETS B.V. [NL/NL]; Het Overloon 1, NL-6411 TE Heerlen (NL).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): WENZEL, Thibaut, José [NL/NL]; Constantijn Huygenslaan 45, NL-2332 TS Leiden (NL). MEULENBERG, Rogier [NL/NL]; Delfgauwseweg 201, NL-2628 EN Delft (NL). LADRIÈRE, Jean-Marc, Maurice, Claude [FR/FR]; 741, route de Valenciennes, F-59213 Vendegies-Sur-Ecaillon (FR).

(74) Agent: MATULEWICZ, Emil, Rudolf, Antoni; DSM Intellectual Property, Delft Office (600-0240), P.O. Box 1, NL-2600 MA Delft (NL).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

**Published:**

— without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: USE OF OXALATE DEFICIENT *ASPERGILLUS NIGER* STRAINS FOR PRODUCING A POLYPEPTIDE

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to oxalate deficient *A. niger* strains for the production of a given enzyme, wherein the oxalate deficient strain produces at least the same amount of enzyme as the wild type strain it originates from under the same culture conditions. Preferably, the oxalate deficient *A. niger* strain produces more enzyme than the wild type strain it originates from under the same culture conditions. More preferably, the oxalate deficient *A. niger* strain is such that when the strain has been transformed with an expression construct comprising a gene coding for an enzyme, said strain produces at least the amount of the enzyme the wild type strain it originates from would produce under the same culture conditions, when the wild type strain has also been transformed with the same expression construct as the oxalate deficient strain. The invention also relates to method for obtaining such oxalate deficient *A. niger* strain. The present invention further relates to method for producing an enzyme, wherein an oxalate deficient *A. niger* strain that produces at least the same amount of enzyme as the wild type strain it originates from under the same culture conditions is used.